

HOUSE of SECRETS

*"QUEEN of
the BEASTS!"*

SEIZE HIM!
HE IS OUR
ENEMY!

ELSA! WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
YOU...? I'M YOUR
FRIEND--
MARK MERLIN!



Let us **PACK YOUR BODY** with the **MUSCLE POWER** you've always wanted!

says

Mickey Mantle



Stop being "Pushed Around" because you're **FLABBY...SKINNY...or SLOW!** We trained ourselves to be champs...and we'll show you how to do the same!



YOGI BERRA used to be called "Fats"—until he got into all kinds of sports and learned how to play to win! That's how he got the reputation as one of the toughest competitors in major league baseball!



"You're too small and skinny to play championship basketball", they told **BOB COUSY**. But Bob showed them it's your **SPEED** and **TRAINING** that count. Now this great basketball star will share his training secrets with you!



JOE LOUIS was a poor boy—and they tried to push him around. But Joe developed his shoulders, his footwork and timing 'til no-body alive could stay in the ring with him. Now Joe will teach **YOU** how to defend yourself!

MICKEY MANTLE was so shy, he had trouble just saying hello! He shows you how sports made him "come out of his shell", built his self-confidence and helped him to become a champion! Now Mickey wants to help **YOU!**

Get Started **NOW**—for just **10¢**

YOU may be surprised to know this, but none of these great champs was born a hero. They all **TRAINED** themselves to be great—and now they've joined together to help others do the same!

Yes, these champions want to help you to be a real athlete and *look* the part! They'll gladly share all their secrets with boys who seriously want to improve. Right at home they'll help you

develop a body that ripples with all the power you'll ever need—iron muscles, strong shoulders, tireless legs and wind. They'll build up your speed and timing. Buck up your confidence, personality and popularity. What's more, you don't need any special weights, bar bells or other expensive equipment to follow their exciting program.

Start Now!

You can start by sending 10¢ for their Championship Training Book *right now!* In it, Mickey Mantle shows you how to step up your batting average...Doak Walker gives you some great passing tips...Bob Cousy tells you how to handle a basketball like a pro...Joe Louis shows you how to fight a guy who's bigger than you. You get all this and much much more for only 10¢. And with this little book we'll send you all the details of a low-cost Program these great athletes have developed to train you to become a **CHAMP**.

Well, how about it? Mickey, Joe and all the rest of the champions are waiting to help you—and they'll never let you down. One thing the champions will tell you, though. "Never put off something important!" So fill in the coupon at the right and mail it with your dime, *today!*

Sports Program Praised Across the Nation...

"My efforts with your Course were rewarded when out of 1700 boys at my school, I scored highest in our annual physical education tests."

— Errol Glustoff,
Chicago 45, Ill.

"The Course has helped me coach my boys the right way. It stresses the right thinking."

— Rev. James Gilchrist,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The Champions not only helped my two sons...they also put me in shape."

— Mr. Wm. Enright,
Rooseville, Mich.



THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS SPONSORED BY
THE NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL
33 West 46th Street, New York 36, New York Dept. AZ-20

The Champions' Program Is ...

Used by 406 Athletic Coaches—all routines are medically approved.

Designed for you to train in your own home—no equipment needed.

ENCLOSE
10¢



THE NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL
Dept. AZ-2033 West 46th Street,
New York 36, N. Y.

Gentlemen: I enclose 10¢. Please rush me the Championship Training Book by Mickey Mantle, Joe Louis, Doak Walker, Bob Cousy and other great sports stars. Also send FREE literature that tells how the National Sports Council can help me become a top athlete and look the part.

PRINT NAME.....AGE.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....ZONE.....STATE.....

DEEP IN THE REMOTE MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS OF MYSTERIOUS
TIBET, THEY GREW... AND ALL WE HAD TO DO TO MAKE A
FORTUNE WAS TO PICK SOME OF THE FLOWERS, BUT WE
DIDN'T KNOW THAT OUR VERY LIVES WOULD BE THREATENED
WHEN WE DARED TO DEFY...

THE CURSE OF THE FORBIDDEN FLORA

TH--THE ABOMINABLE
SNOWMAN--THE MONSTER
THAT ROAMS THE TIBETAN
MOUNTAINS! I--I TOLD YOU
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE PICKED
THOSE SPECIMENS!



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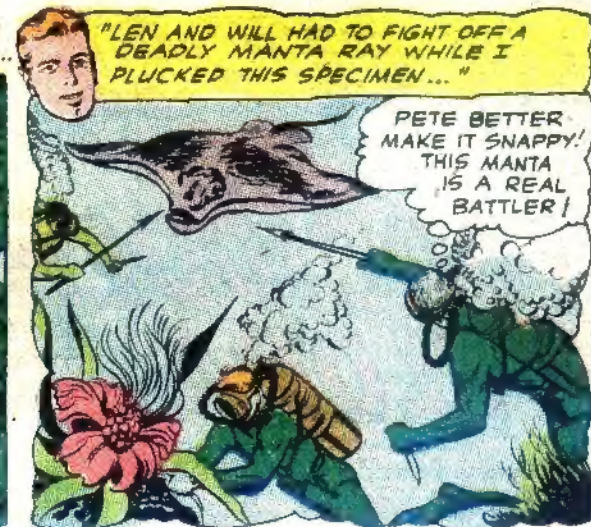
LEN, WILL, AND I, PETE WEST, RAN ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST UNUSUAL BUSINESSES...

YES, MR. JOHNSON--WE'VE GONE TO EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE TO COLLECT THESE RARE PLANTS AND FLOWERS / TAKE THIS MARINE PLANT, FOR INSTANCE ...



NOW, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THIS HUGE BLACK ORCHID--

YOU NEEDN'T GO ON! I SEE I'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE!... I WANT YOU TO GET ME SPECIMENS OF THE FORBIDDEN FLORA OF TIBET!



"LEN AND WILL HAD TO FIGHT OFF A DEADLY MANTA RAY WHILE I PLUCKED THIS SPECIMEN..."

PETE BETTER MAKE IT SNAPPY! THIS MANTA IS A REAL BATTLER!

BUT I WARN YOU-- THEY WERE CULTIVATED FOR CENTURIES BY TIBETAN WILD MEN, WHOSE HIGH PRIESTS SUPPOSEDLY PLACED A CURSE ON WHOEVER DARED TO PICK THEM!

SUPERSTITIONS DON'T SCARE US, MR. JOHNSON! IF YOU'LL JUST FILL US IN WITH THE DETAILS AND NAME YOUR PRICE, WE CAN LEAVE AT ONCE!



FOUR WEEKS LATER, WE WERE ON THE LAST LAP OF OUR JOURNEY...

PETE! DO YOU SEE THOSE WILD MEN OVER AT THE LEFT?

I DO! BUT THEY'RE NOT ATTACKING, SO WHY WORRY?



SHORTLY AFTER, AS WE BREASTED A SLOPE ...

WOW! WHAT BRILLIANT ILLUMINATION! WHERE COULD IT BE COMING FROM?

WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH! BETTER APPROACH WITH CAUTION!





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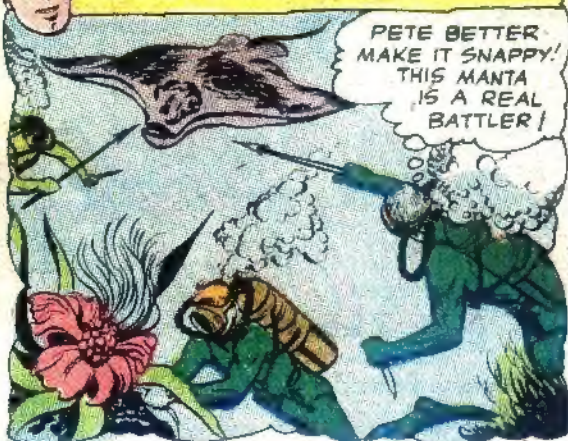


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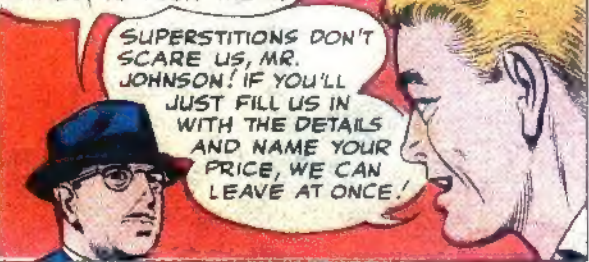
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AS WE REACHED THE TOP...

GOOD GRIEF! THE
SUN FLOWERS
JOHNSON TOLD US
ABOUT! THEY REALLY
DO LOOK LIKE
MINIATURE SUNS!

AMAZING! BUT
LOOK OVER
THERE -- THE
OTHER TWO
TYPES HE
MENTIONED!



WE ADVANCED TO THE ADJOINING FIELD...

FLOWERS THAT RESEMBLE
HEADS OF GOATS!...IT MUST'VE
TAKEN THE WILD MOUNTAIN
MEN CENTURIES OF
SELECTION AND CROSS-
BREEDING TO PRODUCE
THESE MUTATIONS!

LET'S
HAVE A
LOOK AT
THOSE
OTHERS--!



ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN
FLOWERS-- FLORAL
MINIATURES OF THE
LEGENDARY FROZEN MONSTER
THAT ROAMS THESE MOUNTAINS!

WHAT ARE WE
WAITING FOR?
LET'S START
PICKING!



WAIT--REMEMBER JOHNSON'S
WARNING ABOUT THE HIGH
PRIESTS PLACING A CURSE
OVER THOSE FLOWERS--?

AHH-- STOP
REPEATING
THAT
NONSENSE,
AND LET'S
GET STARTED!



SAY, YOU TWO, GIVE ME A HAND!
PUFF--PUFF-- THE ROOTS ARE
AS STRONG AS STEEL
CABLES!



BUT JUST AS WE TORE IT FROM THE GROUND...

HEY, LOOK--THE
WILD MEN ARE
COMING DOWN THE
SLOPE AFTER US!

LET'S GET
OVER TO THE
NEXT
FIELD ON
THE
DOUBLE!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



WE HAD ONLY TIME TO WRENCH FREE A SINGLE SPECIMEN...

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT! LET'S FORGET ABOUT PICKING AN ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN FLOWER!

THEY'RE GETTING

WHAT? YOU'RE MAD! JOHNSON IS PAYING US \$50,000 FOR EACH ONE WE BRING BACK!



LEN IS RIGHT--THERE ISN'T TIME! IN FACT, WE'D STAND A BETTER CHANCE OF ESCAPING IF WE SEPARATE RIGHT NOW--AND MEET AGAIN ON THAT HIGH MOUNTAIN LEDGE FOR OUR GETAWAY!... NOW, SCATTER!



LEN AND I REACHED IT AT THE SAME TIME, BUT...

BLAST IT--WHERE'S WILL? DOESN'T HE REALIZE EVERY MINUTE IS PRECIOUS? IF WE'RE STILL HERE AFTER DARK--



WE WAITED TENSELY, AND THEN...

WILL! IT'S ABOUT THE TIME! WHAT DELAYED YOU?

I SLIPPED ON THE ICE A COUPLE OF TIMES! OKAY, LET'S GET MOVING!



PUT ON YOUR SKIS! WE'LL BE OUT OF HERE BEFORE THOSE WILD MEN EVEN KNOW WE'RE GONE!

NOTHING WOULD SUIT ME BETTER!



BUT AS WE BEGAN THE LONG DESCENT TO FREEDOM...

BOYS! LOOK--THAT SUN BEAM! IT'S--IT'S TWISTING AROUND THE MOUNTAIN PEAKS--TO HIT THE SNOW BELOW US!

IT SEEMS TO BE CONCENTRATING ON THE SNOW--AND MELTING IT!





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IT WAS LEN WHO GRIMLY EXPRESSED WHAT WE WERE THINKING...

DON'T YOU REALIZE--IT'S THE CURSE OF THIS FORBIDDEN **SUN FLOWER?** THE SUN ITSELF IS TRYING TO DESTROY US--FOR HAVING PICKED IT!

THAT'S CRAZY! IT CAN'T BE TRUE--CAN IT, PETE?

OF COURSE NOT! MORE LIKELY THE SUN IS BEING REFLECTED OFF SHINY OBJECTS!

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT!



HE'S THROWING IT AWAY--THE SUPERSTITIOUS FOOL!

A FOOL, AM I? LOOK--



OKAY, OKAY-- LET'S FORGET IT! WE'RE STILL NOT OUT OF THE WOODS!

AND MAYBE WE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE--SO LONG AS YOU STILL HOLD ONTO THAT MOUNTAIN-GOAT FLOWER!

--THE TWISTING SUN BEAM IS GONE!

SURE--BUT YOU COST US 50 GRAND FOR FALLING FOR WHAT WAS ONLY A PHENOMENON!



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BUT I WASN'T GOING TO BE AS FOOLISH AS LEN! WE PUSHED ON MAKING GOOD PROGRESS OUT OF THE HILLS WHEN...

THIS NARROW PRECIPICE IS RISKY, BUT IT'LL SAVE US HOURS! GAME TO CHANCE IT, MEN?

LEAD THE WAY PETE! BUT WE'VE GOT TO BE VERY CAREFUL! CAN'T SEE A THING IN THIS MIST!



MIST! WE'RE IN THE CLOUDS--ON ONE OF THE HIGHEST PEAKS OF THE MOUNTAIN CHAIN.

SUDDENLY, "THERE WAS AN OMINOUS SOUND FOLLOWED BY...

OVER THE EDGE, AND HANG ON--OR WE'LL BE HURLED OVER AND DASHED TO BITS."

A HERD OF MOUNTAIN GOATS--LEAPING OUT OF THE THIN AIR AT US!



ABRUPTLY, A SUDDEN BREEZE WHIPPED AWAY THE CLOUDS...

LOOK-- THE GOATS ARE ACTUALLY LEAPING ACROSS A NARROW CHASM FROM ANOTHER LEDGE--NOT OUT OF THIN AIR, AS WE THOUGHT!

FRANTICALLY, WE DROPPED OVER THE SIDE.

HANG THE FLOWER! I--I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER!

PETE-- YOU'RE DROPPING YOUR FLOWER

THERE'S A LEDGE JUST BELOW US! WE CAN EASILY DROP DOWN TO IT!





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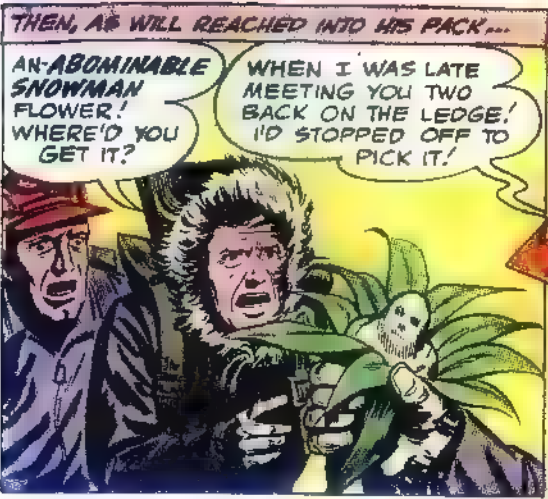
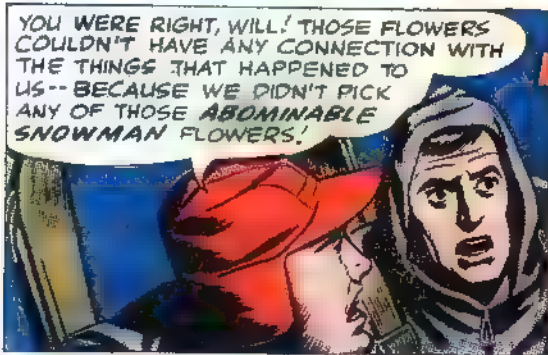
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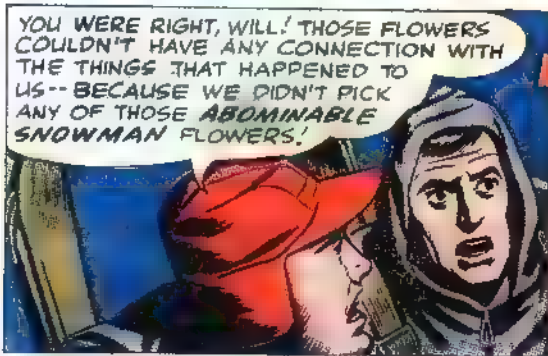
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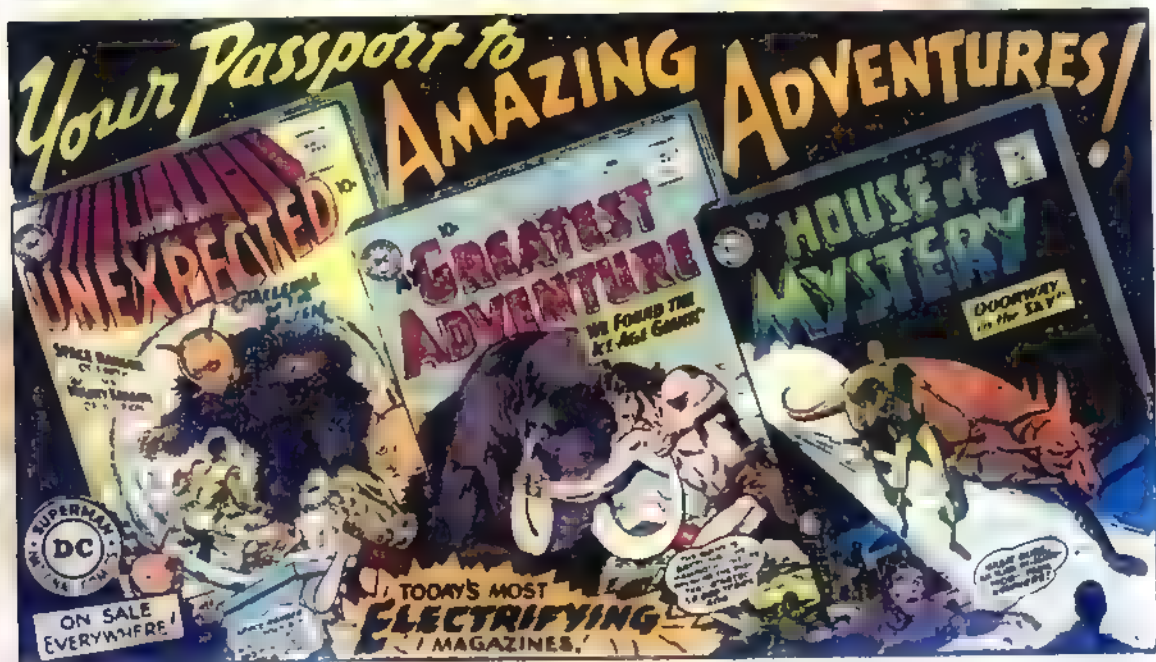
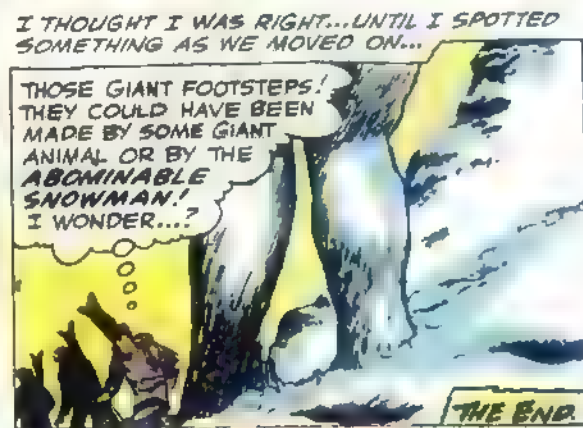
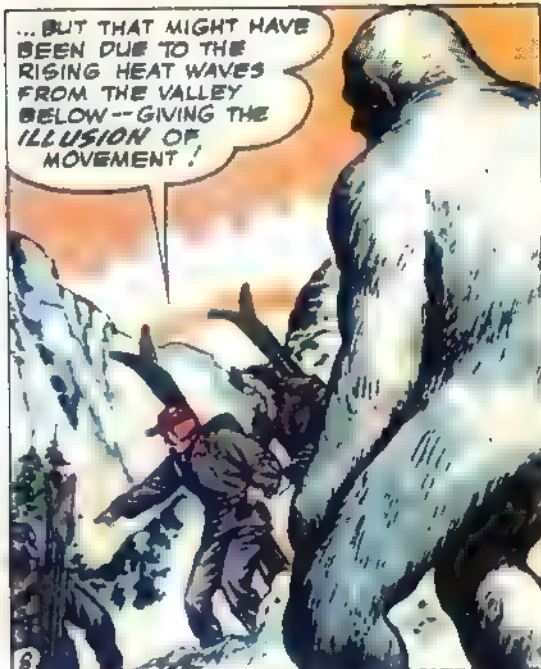
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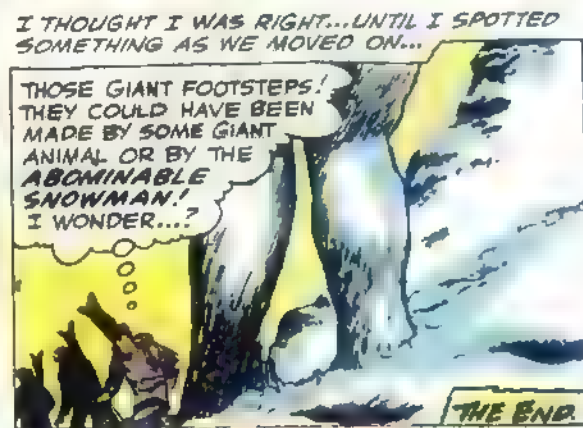
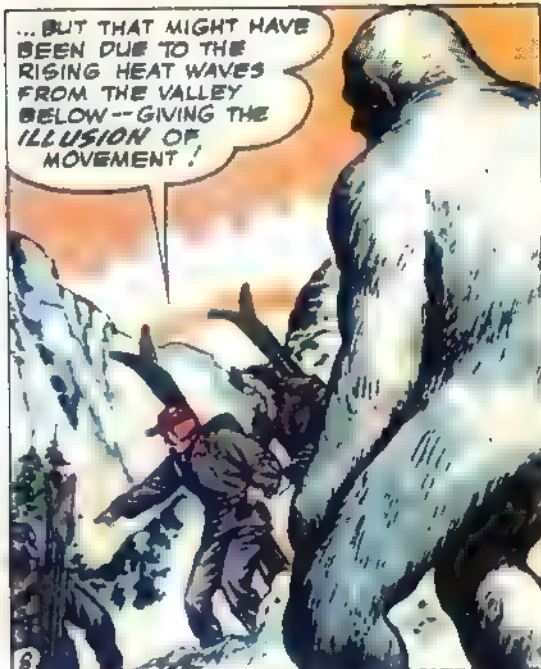
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HI-POWER BINOCULARS

SEE UP TO 18 MILES

Powerful folding Opera Glasses fit into pocket or purse. Center eye piece adjustment. Worth many times low introductory price. Comparable to models selling for \$4.95.

NOW ONLY

50¢

Postpaid.
Limit 2 to a customer.

JOSELY CO., Dept. HB-3A
Carle Place, L.I., N.Y.

Please send me Hi-Power Binoculars.

☐ 1 for 50¢ ☐ 2 for \$1.00.

Limit 2 to a customer.

I enclose: ☐ Bill ☐ Check ☐ Money Order
Sorry, No C.O.D.'s.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

150 CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS! \$1.49

- 6 GATLING MACHINE GUNS
- 30 CAVALRYMEN
- 30 INFANTRYMEN
- 18 SHARPSHOOTERS
- 18 FIELD CANNON
- 3 MERRIMAC SHIPS
- 6 HOSPITAL WAGONS
- 6 HOSPITAL NURSES
- 3 MONITOR SHIPS
- 6 SCOUTS
- 6 OFFICERS
- 6 SERGEANTS
- 6 BUGLERS
- 6 COAST MORTARS

JOSELY CO., Dept. W-11G
Carle Place

Long Island, N. Y.
HERE'S MY \$1.49!

NO
C.O.D.'s

Rush THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS TO ME!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Canadian orders send \$1.75 postal money order

TWO COMPLETE ARMIES THE BLUES AND THE GREYS
EACH PIECE OF MOLDED PLASTIC, EACH ON ITS OWN
BASE MEASURING UP TO 4 INCHES!

HI-POWER BINOCULARS

SEE UP TO 18 MILES



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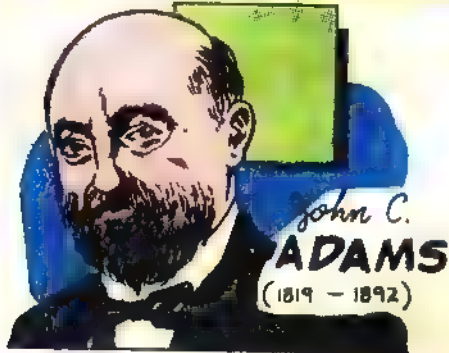
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BASE MEASURING UP TO 4 INCHES!

GIANTS of the Telescope



ABOUT 1840, WHILE CHECKING ASTRONOMICAL DATA ON URANUS, ADAMS MADE THE STARTLING DISCOVERY THAT THE PLANET WAS OFF ITS "SCHEDULED" COURSE...

THE PERTURBATIONS OF URANUS MUST BE CAUSED BY AN UNKNOWN PLANET BEYOND URANUS -- ABOUT HERE!



ADAMS CALCULATED THE EXACT POSITION OF THE MYSTERY PLANET BUT UNFORTUNATELY HAD NO TELESCOPE WITH WHICH TO DETECT IT...

I'LL SEND MY CALCULATIONS TO PROFESSOR CHALLIS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, AND HAVE HIM CHECK MY FINDINGS!



THOUGH PROFESSOR CHALLIS ACTUALLY FOUND THE PLANET, HIS STAR-MAP WAS SO POOR HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE IT...

ADAMS' CONCLUSIONS ARE WRONG! HIS PLANET IS REALLY A STAR!

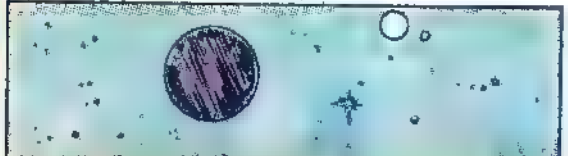


MEANWHILE, IN FRANCE, LEVERRIER REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSIONS ADAMS DID, AND SENT HIS FINDINGS TO THE BERLIN OBSERVATORY...



THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! IT IS A NEW PLANET! WE WILL NAME IT LEVERRIER!

EVENTUALLY, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY AT GREENWICH, ENGLAND, CAME ACROSS ADAMS' EARLIER OBSERVATIONS, AND DEMANDED ADAMS' RIGHT AS CO-DISCOVERER OF THE NEW PLANET...



BY GENERAL CONSENT, LEVERRIER WAS GIVEN THE NEUTRAL NAME OF NEPTUNE!

STATEMENT REQUIRED by the ACT of AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED by the ACTS of MARCH 3, 1933, and JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF HOUSE OF SECRETS, published monthly at Sparta, Illinois for October 1, 1959.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor and business manager are: Publisher, National Comics Publications, Inc.; Editor, Jack Schiff, Managing editor, None, Business manager, J. S. Liebowitz, all at 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member must be given.) National Comics Publications, Inc., H. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz, P. H. Sampliner, G. Donenfeld, S. U. Sampliner, F. Iger, I. Donenfeld, S. Iger, A. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz and A. S. Herzog as Trustees for H. Donenfeld and S. Donenfeld, I. Reppaport and A. S. Herzog as Trustees for L. Liebowitz and J. M. Liebowitz, H. Donenfeld Foundation, Inc. (a non-stock corp., H. Donenfeld,

Pres., I. Donenfeld Secy.), all at 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

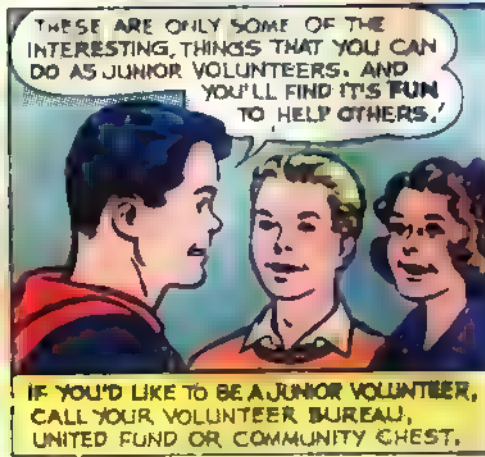
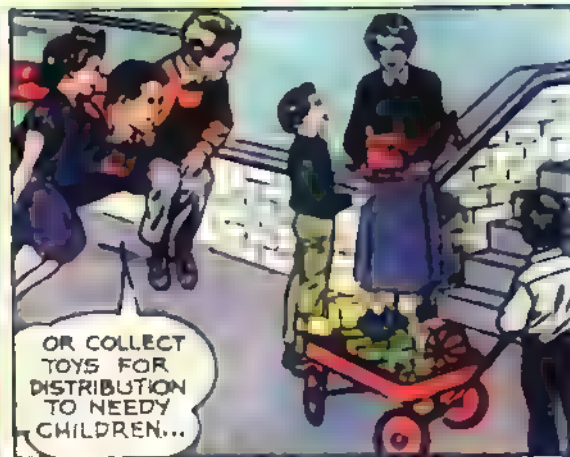
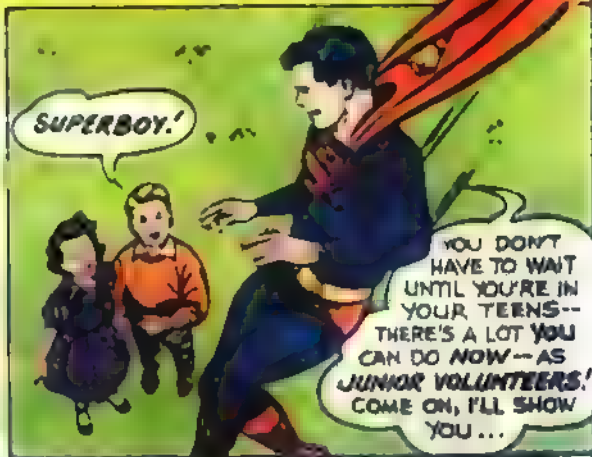
J. S. Liebowitz Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of Sept., 1959.
Daniel Epstein Notary Public
(My commission expires March 30 1961)

SUPERBOY

says:

"IT'S FUN TO HELP OTHERS!"



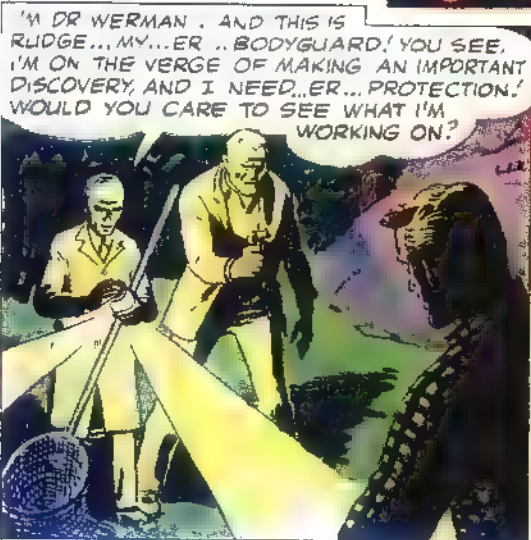


IT WAS AN STRIKING EXPERIMENT THAT
SHOWED EVERY SIGN OF BEING
SUCCESSFUL BUT SUDDENLY SOME-
THING WENT WRONG AND THE WHOLE
WORLD HAD CAUSE TO FEAR WHILE
ONE MAN UNRAVELED...

the **MYSTERY** of the

MAN-MADE MONSTERS



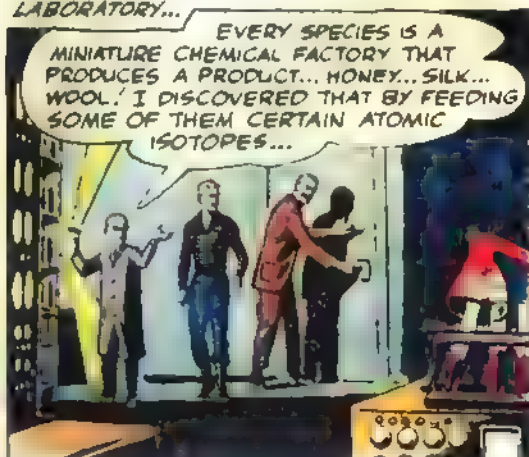




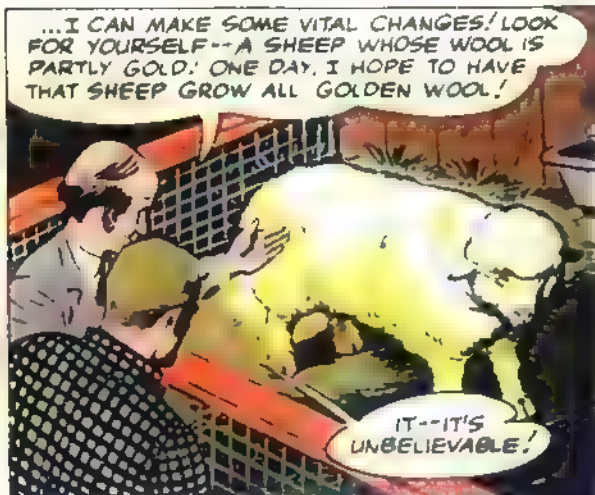
HOUSE OF SECRETS



UNEASILY, LEM IS ESCORTED TO DR. WERMAN'S LABORATORY...



EVERY SPECIES IS A MINUTURE CHEMICAL FACTORY THAT PRODUCES A PRODUCT... HONEY... SILK... WOOL! I DISCOVERED THAT BY FEEDING SOME OF THEM CERTAIN ATOMIC ISOTOPES...

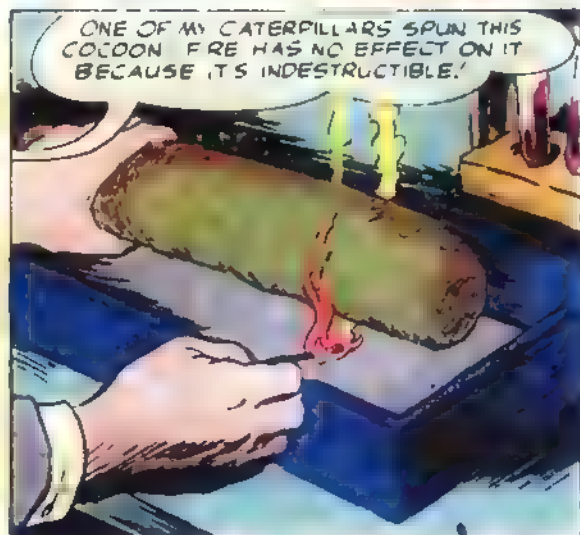


...I CAN MAKE SOME VITAL CHANGES! LOOK FOR YOURSELF--A SHEEP WHOSE WOOL IS PARTLY GOLD! ONE DAY, I HOPE TO HAVE THAT SHEEP GROW ALL GOLDEN WOOL!

IT--IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!



THAT SPIDER SPUN A WEB OF PURE SILVER .. AND THE FIREFLIES THAT STARTLED YOU EMITTED AN INFINITESIMAL QUANTITY OF RADIUM!



ONE OF MY CATERPILLARS SPUN THIS COCOON. FIRE HAS NO EFFECT ON IT BECAUSE IT'S INDESTRUCTIBLE!



IF I DIDN'T SEE YOUR EXPERIMENTS, I WOULDN'T BELIEVE THEM! NOW I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE DR. WERMAN! YOU CAN BE SURE I'LL KEEP YOUR SECRET--

I REGRET I'LL HAVE TO INSIST YOU...ER...STAY!

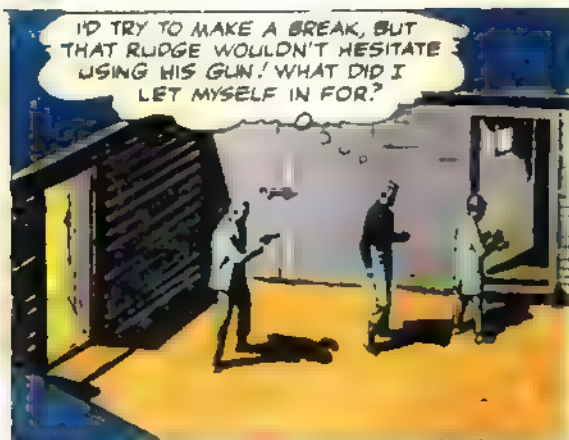


X-YOU MEAN, I'M TO BE KEPT PRISONER?

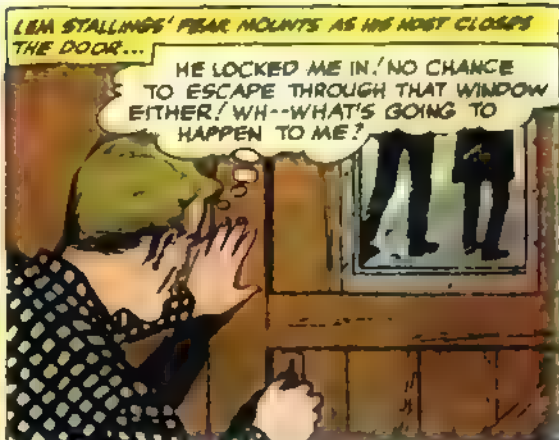
FOR A BRIEF WHILE, MY WORK IS SO VITAL I CAN'T TAKE CHANCES! BELIEVE ME YOU'LL HAVE EVERY COMFORT. YOU MUST BE HUNGRY BY NOW! COME--HAVE SOMETHING TO EAT, THEN I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM!



HOUSE OF SECRETS



I'D TRY TO MAKE A BREAK, BUT THAT RUDGE WOULDN'T HESITATE USING HIS GUN! WHAT DID I LET MYSELF IN FOR?



LEM STALLINGS' FEAR MOUNTS AS HIS NOSE CLOSES THE DOOR...

HE LOCKED ME IN! NO CHANCE TO ESCAPE THROUGH THAT WINDOW EITHER! WH--WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?



FATIGUED BY WORRY HE LIES DOWN, AND, MOMENTS LATER, SEEMINGLY DOES OFF.

GOOD GRIEF! MY WHOLE BODY IS GLOWING... I MUST BE ASLEEP... HAVING A NIGHTMARE!



AFTER A WRETCHED NIGHT HE BREAKFASTS WITH HIS CAPTORS.

WH--WHAT'S THAT?

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

LEM SPENDS THE REST OF THE DAY IN THE SOLITUDE OF HIS ROOM, JOINING THE PAIR ONLY FOR MEALS! THEN THAT NIGHT...



MY BODY... GLOWING AGAIN. I... I WASN'T DREAMING LAST NIGHT! I... I FEEL STRANGE... TINGLING ALL OVER! WH--WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?



THEY MUST BE USING ME AS A GUINEA PIG BY PUTTING ATOMIC ISOTOPES INTO MY FOOD! WERMAN BROUGHT ME HERE TO EXPERIMENT ON... THE WAY HE'S DONE WITH THE OTHERS!

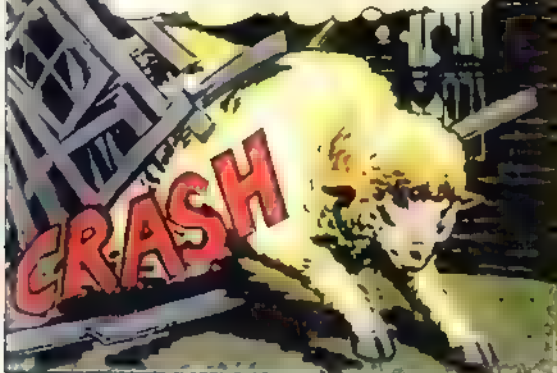


HOUSE OF SECRETS



A CRASHING SOUND CAUSES HIM TO SPRING TO THE WINDOW...

GREAT SCOTT! THAT SHEEP GREW GIGANTIC... AND ITS FLEECE IS DAZZLING GOLD! THAT'S WHY THE HOUSE SHOOK THIS MORNING! IT WAS TRYING TO GET OUT! WHAT WILL HAPPEN?



LATER, LEM STALLINGS LEARNS WHAT OCCURRED IN A NEARBY CITY...



THAT GIANT FIREFLY BURNING HOLES THROUGH THE BUILDINGS WITH ITS STRANGE RAY.



A HUGE SPIDER... SPUN IMPENETRABLE WEBS ALL OVER THE AVENUE!

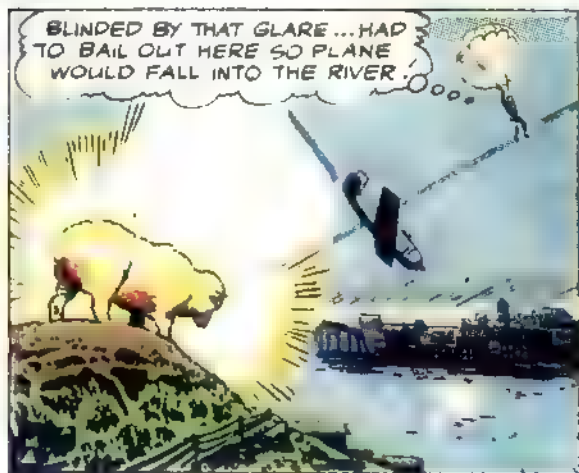


THIS COCOON IS INDESTRUCTIBLE! IF WE CAN'T FIND A WAY TO STOP THOSE MONSTERS, THE ENTIRE CITY WILL HAVE TO BE ABANDONED!

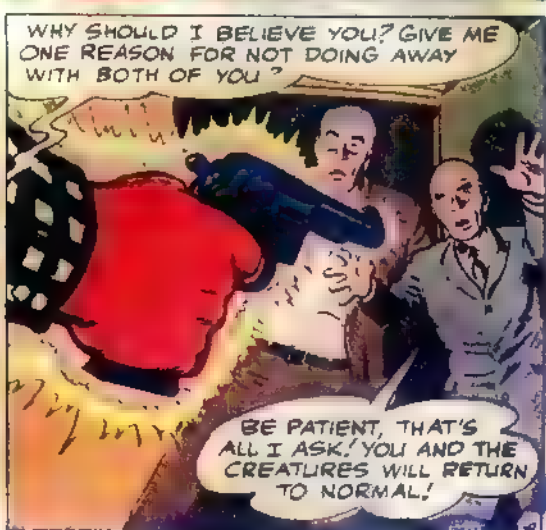
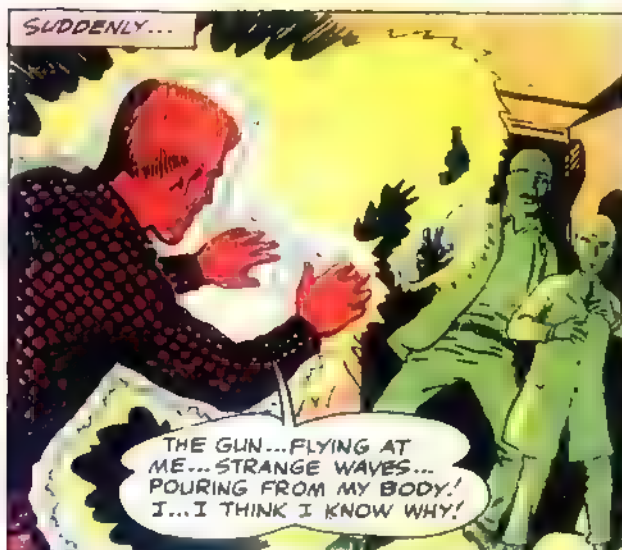
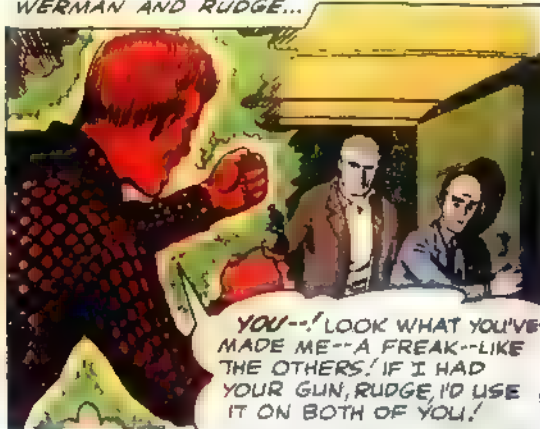
MAYBE THAT FIGHTER-PLANE WILL HAVE BETTER LUCK

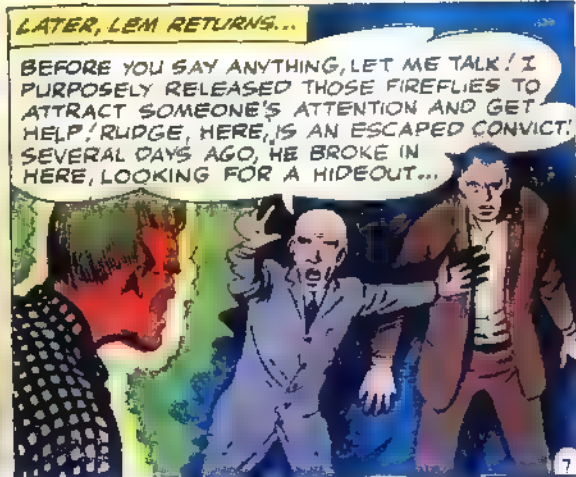
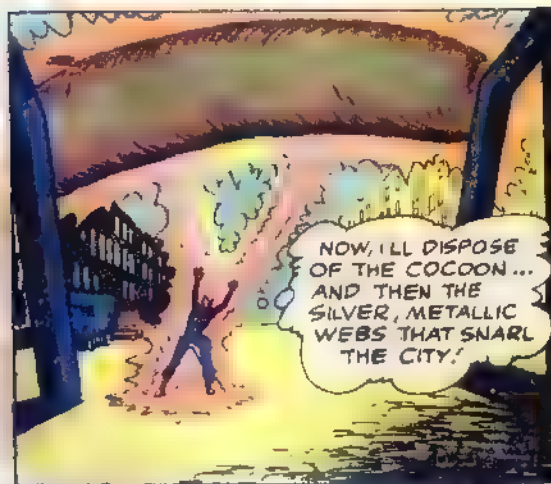
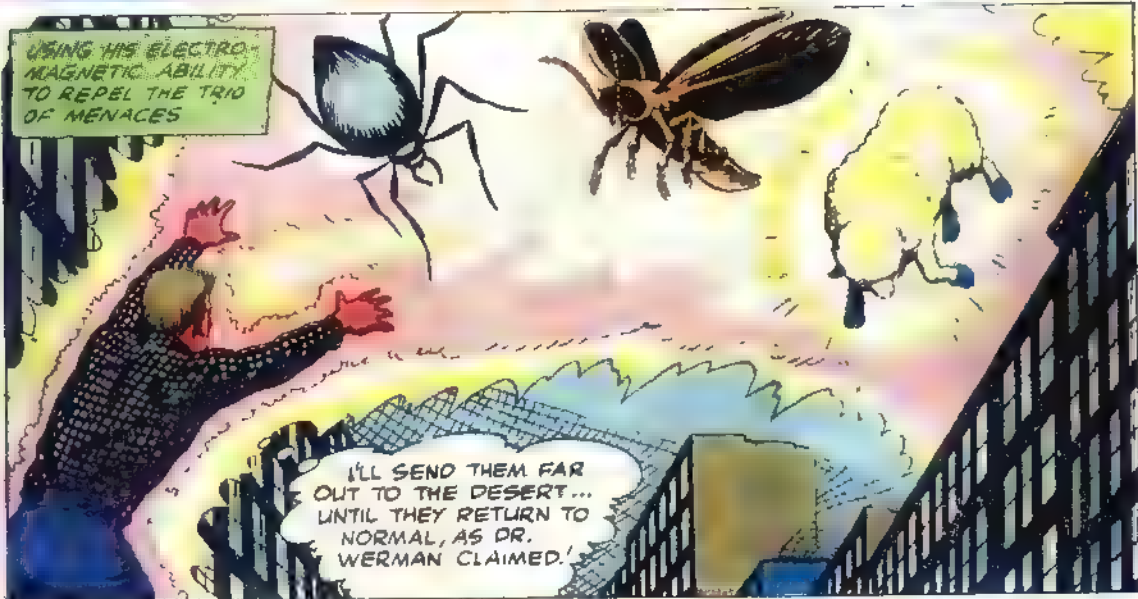
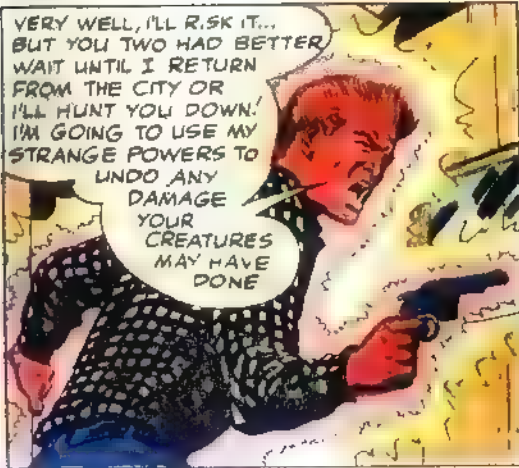


HOUSE OF SECRETS



MEANWHILE, AS LEM IS VISITED BY DR. WERMAN AND RUDGE...





"WHEN HE FORCED ME TO EXPLAIN MY EXPERIMENT, HE ORDERED ME TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF ISOTOPIES I WAS FEEDING MY CREATURES..."

THIS WON'T INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF GOLD AND SILVER THEY PRODUCE. IT WILL MAKE THEM... **MONSTERS!**

ALL THAT GOLD AND SILVER? THOSE ANIMALS WILL BE WORTH A FORTUNE... AND IT'S GONNA BE **MINE!**

I CONFESS, I FED YOU THE ISOTOPIES BECAUSE I KNEW WHAT CHANGE WOULD TAKE PLACE, AND REALIZED THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO COMBAT THE CREATURES!

WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE THEM YOURSELF?

BECAUSE EVEN THE FAINTEST GLOW WOULD'VE AROUSED RUDGE'S SUSPICION... AND HE NEVER LET ME OUT OF HIS SIGHT! HE'D HAVE GUESSED THE TRUTH AND WOULD'VE SHOT ME BEFORE I COULD CONSUME MORE ISOTOPIES!

SOME TIME AFTER THE POLICE HAVE JAILED RUDGE, AND LEM HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL...

YEARS OF WORK WHICH I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO REPRODUCE... DESTROYED FOREVER!

IT WAS A BRILLIANT EXPERIMENT, DR. WERMAN, BUT SOME TIMES IT'S BEST NOT TO PRY INTO NATURE'S SECRETS!

Your favorite heroes...

SUPERMAN
and **BATMAN**
and **ROBIN**

BATTLE FANTASTIC PERILS IN THE PAST AND THE PRESENT...
TO FIND THE KEY TO...

"The Secret of the TIME-CREATURE!"

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!



Secret of the Wood Wizard

"SHEER nonsense! Gibberish!" Those were my very words when the witch doctor issued his warning to me. His tribe inhabits a little-known wilderness on the northern tip of North America, and it was there that I came across him, in my search for timberland.

"You seek the trees of our sacred forest?" he scowled. "Their removal is forbidden by tribal law."

But I'm a businessman—what do I care about the silly customs of some remote, primitive people? Those were almost my exact words in answer to him.

"Then a curse be upon you, stranger!" he snarled, gesturing a strange sign at me. "These very trees shall spell your downfall." It was all I could do to keep from laughing in his face.

The tribe shifted to a new locale when my work crew arrived. In record time, we tore down every tree. During the year it took to season the wood, nothing untoward occurred, and when we began to saw it into strips of lumber, I had all but forgotten about that foolish curse. And it was precisely then that my troubles began.

You may recall some of the accidents—like the time a railroad flatcar, bearing that very lumber, broke out in flame. The fire destroyed the entire shipment, and no one has been able to figure out what caused it. I, of course, regarded it as sheer accident—but that was before the other incidents occurred.

Do you remember the builder who'd put up a little suburban ranch house, only to see it cave in unexplainably, an hour after he'd driven in the last nail? It had been built of lumber pur-

chased from me—lumber cut from that forest!

It was weird—uncanny. As the strange accidents multiplied, my reputation began to decline accordingly. Builders, carpenters, manufacturers—they all started to fear me. And small wonder—because whoever bought this particular wood from me saw it crumble, burn or rot, sometimes minutes after it was put to use.

The curse, however, was not my final undoing. My own stubbornness—the same stubbornness that drove me to cutting down that accursed forest in the first place—was what brought about my ultimate downfall. For I had refused to give in to any hex; I vowed that I would make a profit on every last scrap of that wood. The accidents were just a series of coincidences, I reasoned. They were bound to stop.

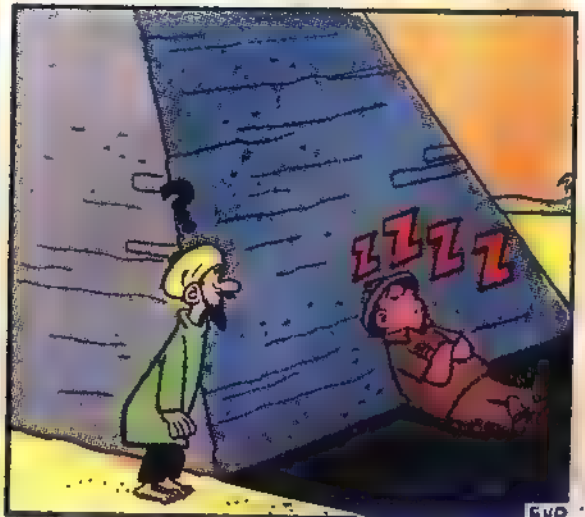
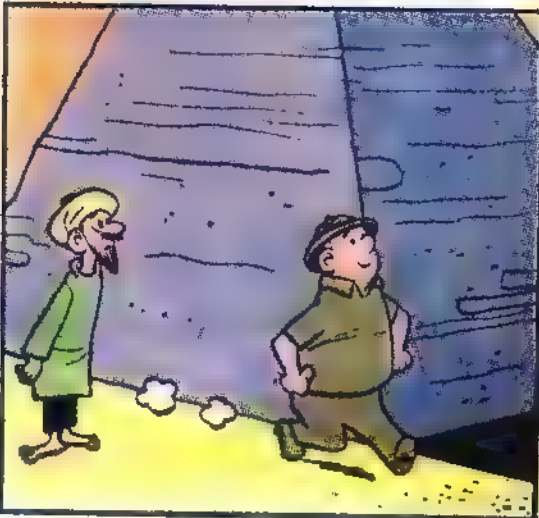
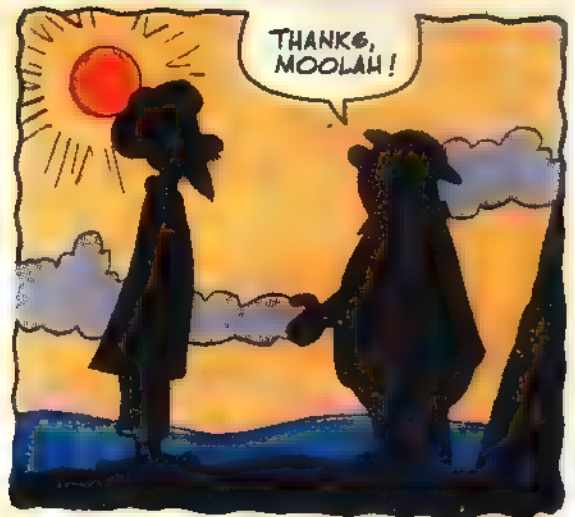
And then came the most incredible "accident" of all. Practically all of that lumber remaining was bought up by a boat manufacturer, who used it in the construction of small yacht, which he subsequently sold to a well-known millionaire. On its very first voyage, the vessel sank, and everyone aboard barely escaped with his life.

But that wasn't the amazing part of it. Why had it sunk? the owner wanted to know. It had not sprung any leaks; it was neither overloaded nor under-equipped with proper instruments; yet it began descending below the surface, like so much dead weight.

Since then, till this very day, no one has risked making a purchase from me. I am on the verge of bankruptcy; my credit is no longer good. Is it coincidence—or is this the downfall cursed upon me by the witch doctor?



HOUSE OF SECRETS





FROM OUT OF THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH THEY CAME - FANTASTIC BEASTS WITH INCREDIBLE POWERS. BUT MOST ASTONISHING OF ALL WAS THE GIRL WHO TURNED OUT TO BE THEIR LEADER! THIS DID MARK MERLIN FACE FATED SUPERNATURAL SLEUTH FACE ALMOST CERTAIN DOOM WHEN HE TRIED TO LEARN THE MYSTERY BEHIND...

THE QUEEN OF THE BEASTS

A
MARK
MERLIN
MYSTERY

WITH MY INTELLIGENCE
AND YOUR POWERS,
WE SHALL BE
UNCONQUERABLE!

GOOD GRIEF! WHAT
HAS COME OVER ELSA?
AND HOW CAN I STOP
HER DEADLY PLAN?





HOUSE OF SECRETS



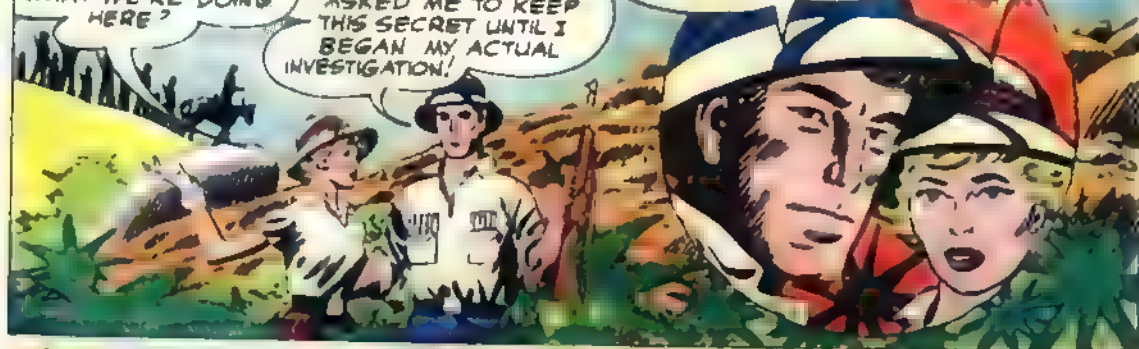
IN A VAST SOUTH AMERICAN MOUNTAIN CHAIN, TWO FAMILAR FIGURES SLOG THROUGH THE UNDERBRUSH

NOW THAT THE SOLDERS LEFT MARK, YOU'LL TELL ME WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE?

SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU IN THE DARK, ELSA, BUT THE GOVERNMENT ASKED ME TO KEEP THIS SECRET UNTIL I BEGAN MY ACTUAL INVESTIGATION!

EVER SINCE AN EARTH-QUAKE OCCURRED HERE RECENTLY THERE HAVE BEEN RECURRENT REPORTS ABOUT STRANGE CREATURES.

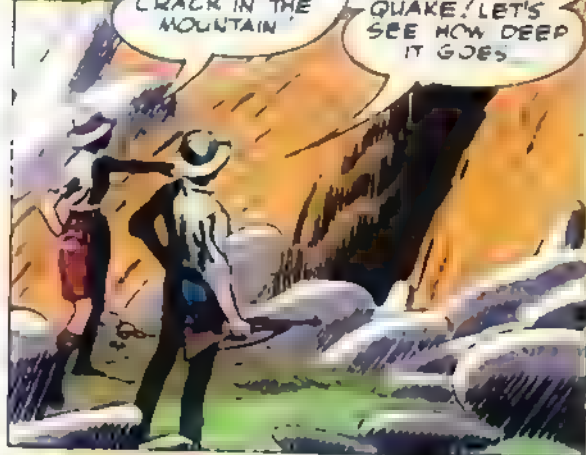
CREATURES? THE NATIVES MUST BE SUFFERING FROM THE HEAT!



JUST THEN...

LOOK MARK, A DEEP NARROW CRACK IN THE MOUNTAIN

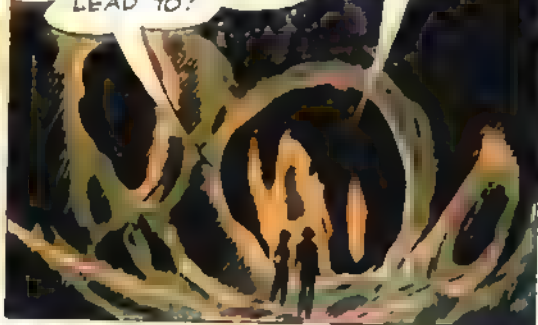
PROBABLY THE RESULT OF THAT QUAKE! LET'S SEE HOW DEEP IT GOES



AS THE DARING DUO ENTERS THE MOUNTAIN OPENING

THERE'S A WHOLE NETWORK OF NATURAL CAVERNS INSIDE THE MOUNTAIN! WONDER WHERE THEY LEAD TO?

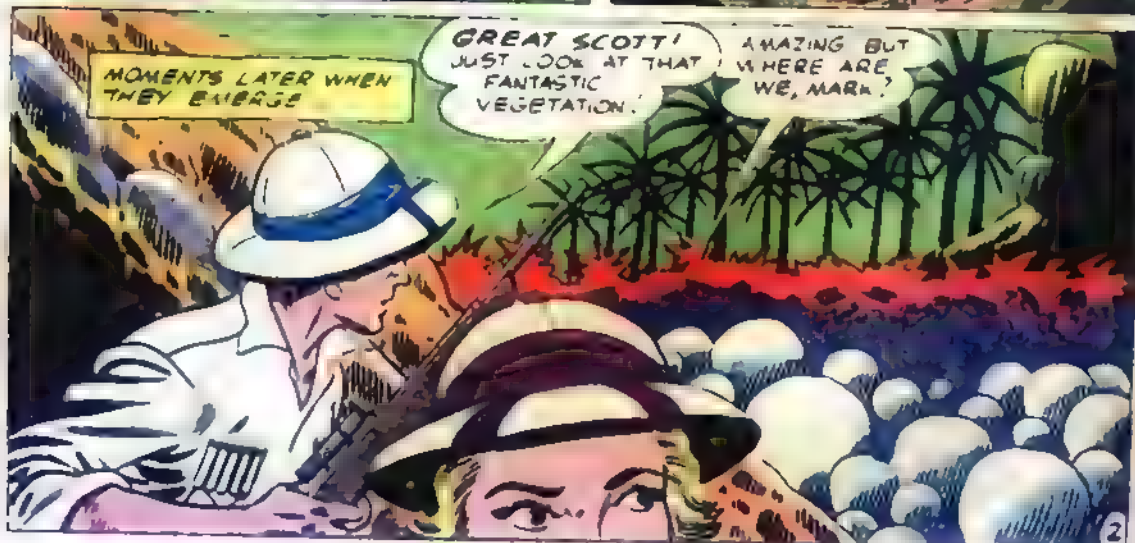
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT, ELSA... I CAN DETECT LIGHT UP AHEAD!



MOMENTS LATER WHEN THEY EMERGE

GREAT SCOTT! JUST LOOK AT THAT FANTASTIC VEGETATION!

AMAZING BUT WHERE ARE WE, MARK?





HOUSE OF SECRETS



YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE, ELSA. I CAN'T FIGURE OUT IF WE'RE STILL *INSIDE* THE MOUNTAIN--OR IN A HIDDEN VALLEY ON THE OTHER SIDE!

LOOK AT THESE STRANGE PUFF PLANTS...THE BLOOMS RISE LIKE BUTTERFLIES WHEN YOU JUST TOUCH THEM!



YES ELSA--AND LOOK HOW THESE FUNNEL-LIKE BREATHER-PLANTS ABSORB THE MIST!

AND--AND THESE HUGE SHELL-COVERED BALL FLOWERS! THEY'RE HOLLOW INSIDE!



HERE'S THE MOST CURIOUS OF ALL, ELSA. A RUBBER PLANT WITH *ELASTIC LEAVES*!



BUT THE NEXT MOMENT BRINGS THE BIGGEST SHOCK OF ALL...

MARK! THERE THEY ARE... THE *CREATURES*! WH-WHAT ARE THEY?... WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?



FROM THE LOOK OF THOSE CLAW MARKS AROUND THAT HOLE, TO SAY THEY CAME FROM SOME UNDERGROUND WORLD!

AND THE HOLE MUST'VE BEEN OPENED UP BY THE SAME QUAKE THAT SPLIT OPEN THE MOUNTAIN!



GOLLY, MARK--THAT ONE'S UPROOTING A WHOLE TREE! ITS POWER MUST BE FANTASTIC!

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING, ELSA--WE'D BETTER GET AWAY FROM HERE!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



BUT BEFORE THEY CAN TAKE A SINGLE STEP...

OH, NO!
THEY'VE
SPOTTED
US!

GET BACK
ELSA... I'M
GOING TO
TRY TO CLIP
THEIR WINGS!

BUT AS
MARK'S
HIGH-
POWERED
R.F.L.
CRACKS
AGAIN
AND
AGAIN

WHY... THE
BULLETS ARE
BOUNCING
OFF THEIR
BODIES.

ONLY ONE
CHANCE, ELSA...
DIVE FOR THAT
PATCH OF PUFF
FLOWERS--AND
SEPARATE!

AND AS
THEY
CARRY
OFF
MARK'S
TACTIC...

IT WORKED! THE PUFF
FLOWERS ARE GIVING
US A TERRIFIC COVER!
STAY DOWN, ELSA--SO
THE BEASTS DON'T
SPOT US!

SOON...

FUNNY... THE CREATURES
ARE GONE-- BUT SO IS
ELSA!

ELSA! WHERE
ARE YOU?
ELSA!

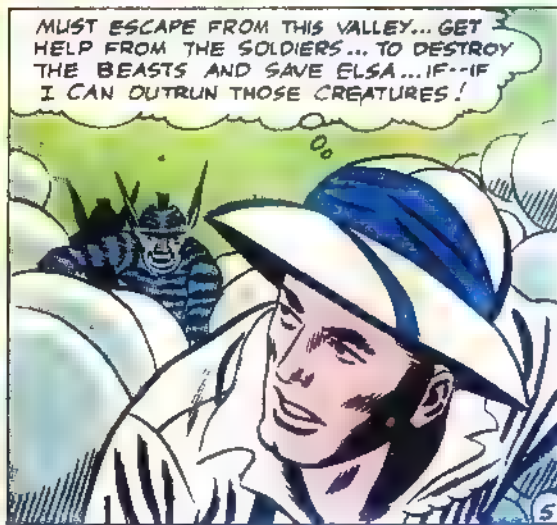
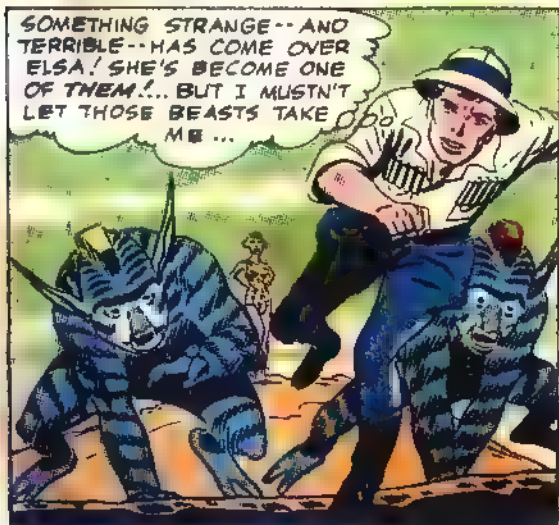
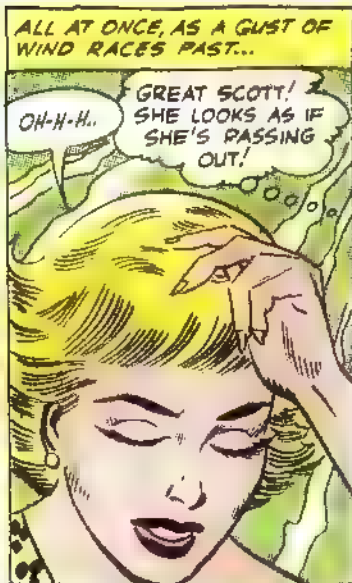
ELSA! WHY DON'T
YOU ANSWER ME?

SUDDENLY,
AS MARK
EMERGES
N.T.C.
A CLEARING

WHAT...? TH-THAT
WOMAN, WEARING
A LEOPARD SKIN...
IT--IT'S ELSA!

ELSA... ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?







HOUSE OF SECRETS



BUT AS THE DESPERATE RACE CONTINUES...

IT'S--IT'S NO USE...THEY'RE CATCHING UP! IN ANOTHER MOMENT, THEY'LL--*WAIT!* THOSE RUBBER PLANTS--I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



THE QUICK-THINKING SLEUTH GRABS A PAIR OF LEAVES, AND...

M--MUST STRETCH THEM AS FAR AS POSSIBLE!



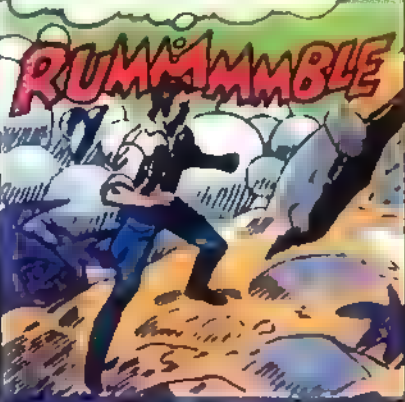
THEN, AS HE RELEASES THE ELASTIC LEAVES.

DID IT! CAUGHT THEM OFF BALANCE AND KNOCKED THE WIND OUT OF 'EM! BY THE TIME THEY RECOVER, I SHOULD BE OUT OF THIS CRAZY VALLEY!



BUT AS MARK NEARS THE MOUNTAIN OPENING...

GOOD GRIEF! THE EARTH IS SHAKING...AND ANOTHER QUAKE WILL PROBABLY SEAL UP THE MOUNTAIN OPENING--TRAPPING ELSA HERE FOR GOOD!

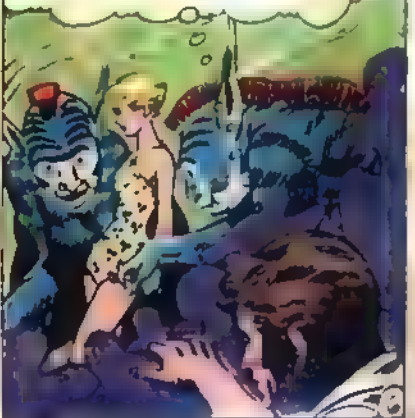


B--BUT HOW CAN I GET HER OUT OF HERE WHILE SHE CONSIDERS ME AN ENEMY--AND THOSE BEASTS HER FRIENDS? WELL...COME WHAT MAY, I MUST SAVE HER!



SO THE FEARLESS SLEUTH BACKTRACKS, UNTIL...

THERE SHE IS--TALKING TO THE CREATURES! I'LL SNEAK UP CLOSE--AND TRY TO HEAR WHAT SHE'S TELLING THEM!



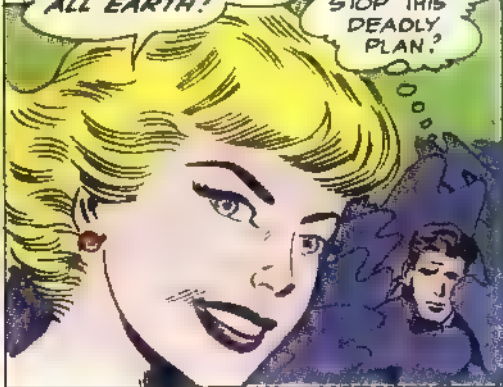
MOMENTS LATER, MARK MERLIN LISTENS IN AWE TO FRIGHTENING AND FOREBODING WORDS...



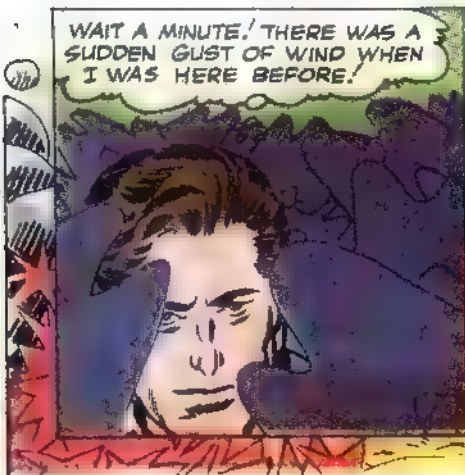
WITH MY INTELLIGENCE AND YOUR POWERS-- WE SHALL BE UNCONQUERABLE!

AND WHEN THE OTHERS OF YOUR CLAN ARRIVE FROM THE LOWER-WORLD, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO CONQUER ALL EARTH!

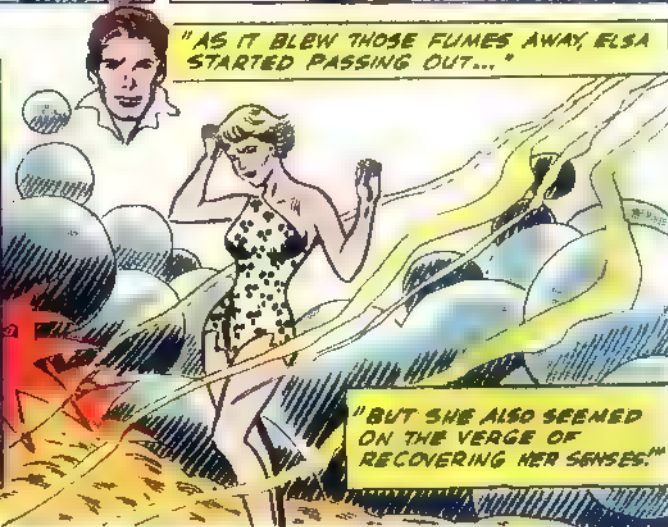
GULP! WH-WHAT CAN HAVE COME OVER ELSA?... AND HOW CAN I STOP THIS DEADLY PLAN?



WAIT A MINUTE! THERE WAS A SUDDEN GUST OF WIND WHEN I WAS HERE BEFORE!

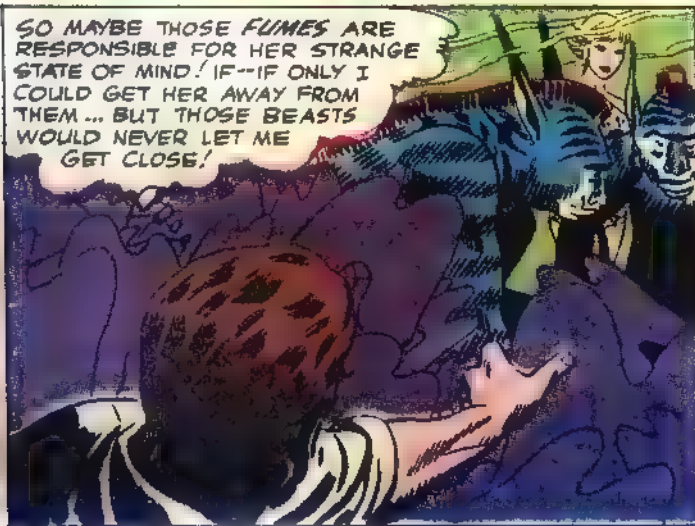


"AS IT BLEW THOSE FUMES AWAY, ELSA STARTED PASSING OUT..."



"BUT SHE ALSO SEEMED ON THE VERGE OF RECOVERING HER SENSES!"

SO MAYBE THOSE FUMES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HER STRANGE STATE OF MIND! IF--IF ONLY I COULD GET HER AWAY FROM THEM... BUT THOSE BEASTS WOULD NEVER LET ME GET CLOSE!

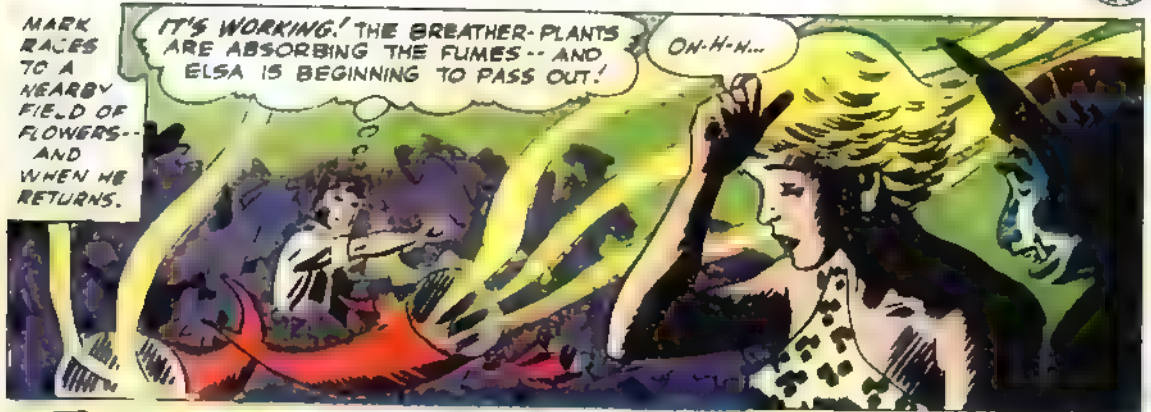


HOLD IT! I JUST THOUGHT OF A SAFER WAY OF DOING IT!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



MARK RACES TO A NEARBY FIELD OF FLOWERS-- AND WHEN HE RETURNS, IT'S WORKING! THE BREATHER-PLANTS ARE ABSORBING THE FUMES-- AND ELSA IS BEGINNING TO PASS OUT!

OH-H-H...

BUT AS ELSA LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS...

THE BEASTS ARE WISE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING. THEY'RE CARRYING AWAY THE BREATHER-PLANTS! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO GET ELSA.

WITH LIGHTNING SPEED, HE GRABS THE LIMP FIGURE, AND...

NOW TO GET HER OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE CREATURES GET BACK!

BUT BEFORE THE DARING DETECTIVE CAN GET FAR...

OH, NO! THEY'VE CUT OFF OUR ESCAPE ROUTE!



AND HERE THEY COME! THESE SHELL-COVERED BALL PLANTS... I'VE GOT ONE LAST DESPERATE CHANCE!

WITH A POWERFUL SWEEP OF HIS ARM, MARK MERLIN SPREADS HAVOC IN THE BALL-PLANT FIELD...

NOW FOR THE SECOND PART OF MY PLAN...



BUT NEXT INSTANT...

THE AGILE DETECTIVE NEXT CRACKS OPEN A HOLE IN ONE OF THE BALLS, CLIMBS IN WITH ELSA, AND...

RUMBLE

FROM THE OUTSIDE, THIS ONE RESEMBLES ALL THE OTHERS! HERE'S HOPING THOSE BEASTS DON'T CATCH ON!

THE QUAKE IS STARTING IN EARNEST NOW!... THE TWO OPENINGS ARE STARTING TO CLOSE!

AND THE BEASTS ARE LEAPING INTO THE HOLE THEY CAME OUT OF! I--I SURE HOPE ELSA AND I GET THROUGH OUR OPENING BEFORE IT CLOSES!

SECONDS LATER, AS THE BALL-PLANT GOES RACING INTO THE MOUNTAIN CAVERNS...

RUMBLE

TH--THE MOUNTAIN'S CLOSING UP BEHIND US FAST!

MADE IT!

CRUNCH

AND SO, PRESENTLY...

MARK? WH-WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE BEASTS?

STEADY ELSA. I'D BETTER WAIT TILL YOU'RE FEELING STRONGER BEFORE I TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY!

THE END

FRONTIER CABIN

\$1.00
5 for
\$4.00

**BIG ENOUGH
FOR 2-3
KIDS!**



SPECIAL GIRL'S PLAYHOUSE NOW AVAILABLE!

Same size, shape and price as cabin. Imprinted brick walls. French windows, folded wood-slat shutters, flowers, shrubs, sloping roof, large door, etc.

FREE

Large 2"x8" Name Plate fits on door. House can be personalized with child's name.

This huge, western-style cabin is a child's dream come true. Size Approx. 3 ft. high - 9 ft. square, 23 cubic ft. inside. Endless hours of play fun. Big enough for 2-3 kids to 'Live' in this cabin of their very own. Constructed of specially treated, safe, flameproof and waterproof DuPont Polyethylene. Use year 'round, indoors or outdoors. No tools needed, nothing to assemble. Sets up in a jiffy, folds compactly for easy storage. Walls and door are realistically imprinted in authentic brown split-log design. Peaked roof is in contrasting color. In a youngster's imagination, it quickly becomes a **RANCH HOUSE . . . FARMHOUSE . . . PLAYHOUSE** or a **LIFE-SIZE DOLL HOUSE FOR GIRLS**. A **Bankhouse - Jailhouse - Sheriff's Office - Secret Clubhouse for Boys**. This King-size cabin is our greatest bargain in years. A comparable \$3.98 value now only \$1.00. This sale price is made possible by our buying directly from factory. We are the largest Mfrs. and Distrib. of playhouses in the U.S. Over 250,000 satisfied customers. They make wonderful gifts. Buy several. **Add 25c each house, postage and handling charges.** Sorry, no C.O.D.'s. **Special Offer:** 5 for \$4.00. **GUARANTEE:** Try without risk or obligation for ten days. Let the kids play in and enjoy it. If they are not delighted return for immediate refund.

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☐ Girl's Playhouse @ \$1.00 plus 25c postage and handling
☐ Frontier Cabin or Giant Playhouse or Any Combination - 5 for only \$4.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling

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Space Shoes, Carle Place, L.I., N.Y.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

SPACE SHOES, Dept. SS
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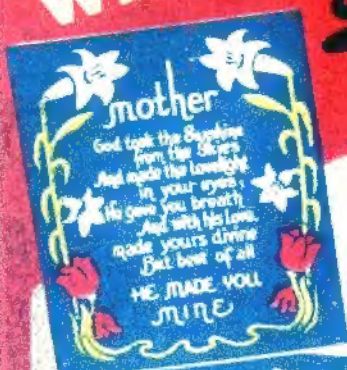
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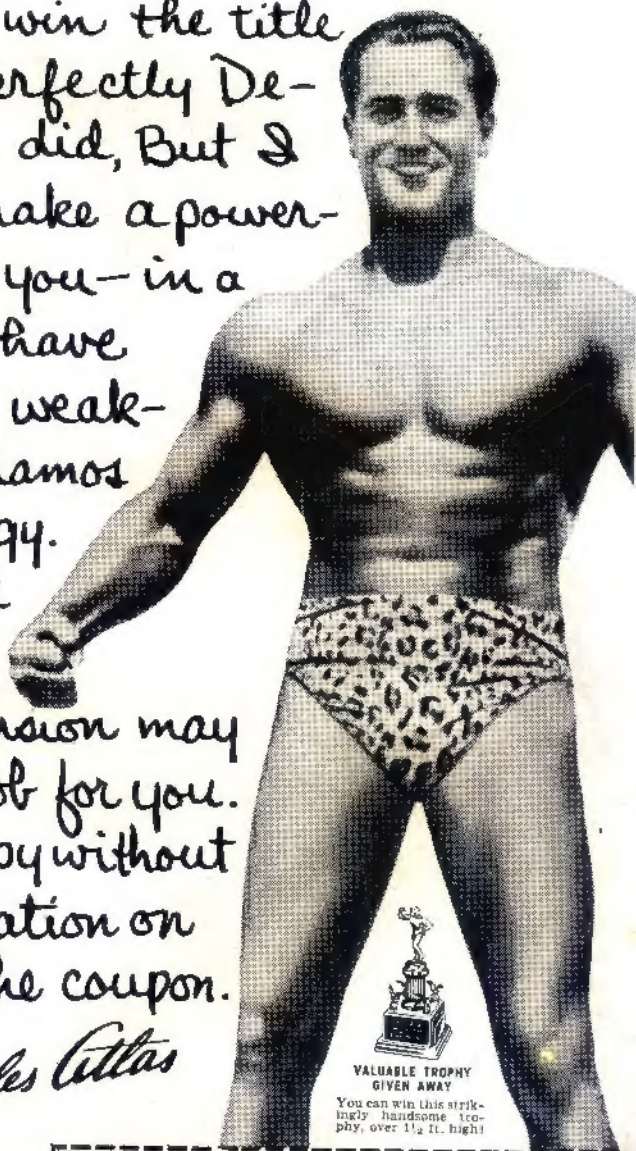
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